

EXECUTIVE REPORT FOR THE YEAR APRIL 2017 TO MARCH 2018

This report covers the activities and achievements of Womens Golf South Africa for the above-mentioned period which was again, an exceedingly full year with several highlights.

NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

NOMADS ROSE BOWL 54 HOLE GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP, ROYAL DURBAN, 3 – 4 APRIL 2017

This was the 8th Rose Bowl Championship run by WGSA and 6th sponsored by Nomads; the event was hosted by Royal Durban Country Club. Royal Durban Country Club may have been bathed in sun for much of the day, but the conditions belied the severity of wind gusts that proved hugely challenging for the 66 juniors competing in the first two rounds of the Nomads SA Girls Rose Bowl Championship on Monday.

WGSA “B” Squad Player Kaiyuree Moodley (GAU) claimed the 2017 Nomads SA Girl’s Rose Bowl Championship with a determined performance. Moodley edged out former champion Chiara Contomathios from Wanderers by one shot and finished two strokes clear of Ekurhuleni duo Kiera Floyd and Caitlyn Macnab on a score of 234 (80, 82, 72).

The 10 – 18 handicap division was won by Elham Shaik (KZN) on 276 (88, 91, 97) two shots ahead of Demi Lamp (KZN) on 278 (96, 96, 86). The stableford Bronze Division was won by Kamaya Moodliar (KZN) with 82 points and Mikah Poonawassy (NC) was runner up with 72 points.

Blackberries were used for the live scoring in all divisions. The Nomads and WGSA sponsorship enabled ten girls to be chaperoned and for all their tournament, travel, accommodation and meal costs to be covered by the sponsorship.

SANLAM SA WOMEN’S AMATEUR STROKE PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP, WANDERERS GOLF CLUB, 23 - 25 APRIL 2017

The beautiful Wanderers Golf Course played host for this 54 Hole stroke play event comprising a total of 76 players.

62 “A” Division players (handicaps 9 and under) and 14 “B” Division players (handicaps 10 – 18) participated.

Kajal Mistry (GAU) won the tournament on 212 (69, 69, 74) with Symone Henriques (GAU) the runner up on 213 (74, 69, 70).

Genee Marais (GN) on 255 (88, 87, 80) won the “B” Division on the first hole of a play-off against Luzan Esterhuizen (BOR) on 255 (83, 85, 87).

Entry fees were refunded to two foreign players with single figure handicaps, Emily Jones and Madina Hussein

72-HOLE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP, POLOKWANE GOLF CLUB, 21 - 24 MAY 2017

The event was successfully hosted at Polokwane Golf Club. Accommodation was sourced nearby for all the Executive and participating teams.

RESULTS

A Division - Swiss Team Trophy

Winners: KwaZulu-Natal A (Brittney-Fay Berger, Michaela Fletcher, Elsune Roode) 578

Runner up: Gauteng A (Kajal Mistry, Woo-Ju Son, Kaleigh Telfer) 580

B Division - Challenge Trophy

Winners: Gauteng C (Lynette Fourie, Kaiyuree Moodley, Kelsey Nicholas) 604

Runner up: Ekurhuleni B: (Kiera Floyd, Jenefer Haw, Carmen Taljaard) 618

Individual: The Governors' Trophy

Winner: Michaela Fletcher (285)

Runner up: Kaleigh Telfer (288)

Third: Caitlyn Macnab (291)

Fourth: Brittney-Fay Berger (293) & Woo-Ju Son (293)

NOMADS SA GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIPS, ORKNEY GOLF CLUB, 2 – 4 JULY 2017

The Nomads SA Girls Championship was once again held at Orkney, North West. The cost of green fees, accommodation, meals and travel are met by our national sponsor, Nomads, together with WGSA and the provincial unions, and no girl is excluded because of financial constraints. We have yet to find a golf course with the safe, convenient accommodation option available at Orkney. The winner of this Championship receives an invitation to the Duke of York Young Champions Trophy on condition that she meets their eligibility criteria.

All the girls and their chaperones were accommodated at The Key across the road from the club. Once again local members collected scorers on iPads on every third hole and live scoring was available on the WGSA website.

Number of players: A Division (handicaps 9 and under) 54 holes stroke play – 38 players
 B Division (handicaps 10 – 18) 54 holes stroke play – 43 players
 C Division (handicaps 19 – 25) 36 holes stableford – 16 players
 D Division (handicaps 26 – 32) 36 holes stableford – 5 players
 Under 16: 47 players

A-Division: Handicaps 9 and Under – Jenny Bruce Trophy

Championship Winner: Woo-Ju Son (GAU) (215)

Runner Up: Chiara Contomathios (GAU) (222)

3rd: Kajal Mistry (GAU) (222)

Winner: 16 & Under: Caitlyn Macnab (EKU) (227)

B Division: Handicaps 10 – 18 – Esther Cutler Trophy

Winner: Marine Legentil (GAU) (247)

Runner Up: Kim Turgut (GAU) (254)

C Division: Handicaps 19 – 25 – Jean Eustice Trophy

Winner: Marne van der Merwe (LIM) 77

Runner up: Xavier Arries (WP) (76)

D Division: Handicaps 26 – 32 – Faith Daniel Trophy

Winner: Thaakirah Bickoo (EP) (83)

Runner up: Chloe Buss (BOR) (69)

Teams:

Jackie Mercer Gross Trophy:

Gauteng: Kajal Mistry & Woo-Ju Son (291)

Nett Team prize:

Ekurhuleni: Teagan Lubbe & Jenefer Haw (285)

Sanette Marais Bronze Division Team Prize:

Gauteng North: Jutta Tecklenburg & Cinteché du Plessis (140)

SANLAM SA AMATEUR MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP, STELLENBOSCH GC, 16 - 19 JULY 2017

Entries are limited to 64 in order to guarantee players at least 4 rounds of tournament play. The entry of only 52 players was disappointing. The final was very exciting with overseas entrant Jessica Dreesbeimdieke and Cara Gorlei fighting it out to the final hole which Cara won with a superb putt. This Championship is held at this time of year so our players at colleges overseas may be afforded the chance of entering whilst home for the holidays. A special note of thanks again to Sanlam for supporting WGSA in our endeavour to grow this Championship.

RESULTS:**36 Hole Seeding Round**

Winner: Cara Gorlei (WP) 145 (75, 70)

2nd: Kaleigh Telfer (GAU) 145 (75, 71)

3rd: Jessica Dreesbeimdieke (NAM) 147 (76, 71)

MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP:

Champion: Cara Gorlei (WP)

Runner up: Jessica Dreesbeimdieke (NAM)

Semi-finalists 3rd: Sarah Bouch (EKU)

Semi-finalists 4th: Zethu Myeki (BOR)

PLATE:

Winner: Cleo Jordaan (WP)

Runner up: Lynne Behagg (BOL)

Semi-finalists 3rd: Aaliyah Abrahams (WP)

Semi-finalists 4th: Jessica Green (WP)

SA INTER-PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT, MOSSEL BAY GOLF CLUB, 25 – 29 SEPTEMBER 2017

The flag raising ceremony signalled the start of the 57th South African Women's Inter-Provincial Championship and the 3rd time that this tournament has been held without sponsorship. Due to very inclement weather, flag raising took place inside the club house. The teams were piped in by a young piper and the National Anthem resounded around the clubhouse.

WGSA President, Sally Greasley welcomed the dignitaries, players and spectators. Graeme Viljoen, Manager of Mossel Bay Golf Club, handed over the course on behalf of Mossel Bay Golf Club.

Stroke Play Qualifier Round:

Best Individual Gross: Jordan Rothman (WP) 71

Runner up Individual Gross: Zethu Myeki (BOR) 71

Results of the Foursomes & Singles Stroke Play Qualifying Rounds:**A Inter Provincial: Jean Tindall Memorial Trophy** (6 players per team)

Winners: Gauteng A (538)

(Chiara Contomathios, Elenora Galletti, Symone Henriques, Kajal Mistry, Kaiyuree Moodley, Woo-Ju Son)

Runners Up: Western Province A (547)

(Zayb Fredericks, Ashleigh Mills, Jordan Rothman, Katia Shaff, Vicki Traut, Kaylah Williams)

B Inter Provincial Winners: Nolan Karp Trophy (4 players per team)

Winners: Western Province B (425)

(Aaliyah Abrahams, Laylaah Abrahams, Iman Adams, Odette Booyesen)

Runners Up: Kwazulu Natal (428)
(Lizzie Currie, Bronwyn Rae, Elsune Roode, Jessica Shurety)

Results of the Inter Provincial Match Play:

Winners: A Division Section 1: Western Province A
(Zayb Fredericks, Ashleigh Mills, Jordan Rothman, Katia Shaff, Vicki Traut, Kaylah Williams)

Winners: A Division Section 2: Gauteng North A
(Adele Beyell, Frankie Bosman, Lindi Coetzee, Larissa du Preez, Cleo Jordan, Lenanda van der Watt)

Winners: B Division Section 1: Kwazulu Natal
(Lizzie Currie, Bronwyn Rae, Elsune Roode, Jessica Shurety)

Winners: B Division Section 2: Mpumalanga
(Chante Boonstra, Thandeka Hlatshwayo, Patrizia Lombard, Zane Naude)

The winners of the B Inter Provincial are given the option of taking promotion to the A Inter Provincial in 2018. Kwazulu Natal have agreed to take the promotion.

The Gilly Tebbutt Trophy for the top ranked player at the end of September each year was presented to Kajal Mistry.

SANLAM CANCER CHALLENGE FINAL – SUN CITY, 9 - 10 OCTOBER 2017

Over R4.2 million was again raised this year for the Cancer Association of South Africa (CANSA) by the Sanlam Cancer Challenge (SCC), Southern Africa's largest amateur charity golf series. Over 40 000 golfers took part from 780 clubs throughout South Africa, Namibia and Kenya with the final being down to just over 100 golfers who qualified for the 36-hole National Finals. Once again, these players were treated to the very special hospitality of Sanlam and Sun City.

This was the 25th anniversary of a series that annually raises money for the Cancer Association of South African.

OVERALL LADIES WINNER:

Joyce Hughes (GAU) 75 points

SA MID-AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP, KIMBERLEY GC, 6 – 8 NOVEMBER 2017

43 Players entered this year's SA Mid-Amateur Championship. The entry was down from last year's figure and numbers remain a concern. WGSA would really like to see this Championship grow in stature amongst the 35 and over age group, as this group of players are the backbone of Womens Golf. After two years of being hosted in the south of the country, the tournament moved to Northern Cape for the first time. To grow the Mid-Amateur tournaments WGSA has implemented a Mid-Amateur Ranking in 2018 and four Unions have added Mid-Amateur Championship events which brings the number of provincial events to seven. Together with the national championship our Mid-Amateurs now have a series of eight events. We hope this will encourage players from around the country to play in their Provincial Mid-Amateur Championships and the National event.

This year the Senior Trophy was played as a Gross event.

RESULTS:

Championship Division

Winner: Sandra Winter (SC) 224 (78, 79, 75)

Runner-up: Desi Earle (LIM) 243 (81, 85, 77)

B Division

Winner: Elmien van Niekerk (NC) 225 (87, 82, 86)

Runner up: Beverley Vigne (WP) 259 (86, 87, 86)

C Division (Stableford)

Winner: Lynette Lotriet (KZN) 106

Runner up: Rita Herholdt (SC) 97

The **Senior Trophy** was won by Sonia Bland (SC) on 245

INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

ALL AFRICA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP – ROYAL HARARE GOLF CLUB, ZIMBABWE, 27 – 31 MARCH 2017

The annual All Africa Junior Championship falls under the auspices of the men's African Golf Confederation and is a qualifier for the Toyota Junior World Cup held in Japan. This was the 23rd year the SA Boys team have played in this event. Due to there being no qualifier in Africa for girls, after much discussion with the organisers of the Toyota event and the AGC, the girls were invited to be included in the AAJC in 2017. Girls from four countries participated, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Zambia and South Africa. The proviso for selection is that the same team that wins the AAJC competes in Japan.

Players: Kajal Mistry (Gauteng), Symone Henriques (Gauteng) and Kaleigh Telfer – Captain (Gauteng),

Support Team: Manager – Karen Olivant (WGSA President), Sally Greasley (WGSA Vice President)

Individual Performances (total number of players 12)

Kajal Mistry 69, 77, 67, 75

Symone Henriques: 75, 73, 70, 74

Kaleigh Telfer: 75, 79, 75, 75

Kajal broke the Ladies Course Record on Day one (69) and then again on day three (67)

South Africa won the AAJC on a score of 580.

REGIONAL ALL AFRICA CHALLENGE TROPHY, MASERU GOLF CLUB, LESOTHO 5 - 7 APRIL 2017

This year the Regional All Africa Challenge was hosted by Maseru Golf Club, Lesotho. This biennial African Golf Championship falls under the auspices of the Trustees of the AACT and a Regional event is played in the year between. The event rotates among four geographic zones of Africa. Ghana won the bid to host the AACT in 2018. As the dates clashed with the Nomads Rose Bowl in 2017, it was decided to send a senior team without a Chaperone/Manager.

PLAYERS: Sarah Bouch, Zethu Myeki, Lumien Orton and Vicki Traut (Captain)

Individual Performances (total number of players 19)

Sarah Bouch posted the best individual scores on 215 (71, 74, 70)

Lumien Orton: 3rd on 219 (73, 73, 73)

Zethu Myeki: 4th on 222 (78, 72, 72)

South Africa won the RAACT on a score of 428. They were followed by Zimbabwe on 440 and Swaziland on 507.

JAKARTA WORLD JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP – DAMAI INDAH GOLF CLUB, JAKARTA, 6 – 9 JUNE 2017

This is an annual event which is held as part of the festivities celebrating the founding of Jakarta. The invitation to participate in this tournament is for 2 girls and 2 boys and is age specific. WGSA once again afforded the South African Golf Development Board (SAGDB) the opportunity of selecting two boys to be chaperoned by WGSA

Cassandra Hall and Kaiyuree Moodley represented WGSA and Carl Mwale and Cole Stevens represented the SAGDB. They were accompanied by WGSA Vice President Sarah Braude.

Individual Performances:

Carl Mwale: 316 (+28) – T10th in the “Boys A”

Cole Stevens: 325 (+37) – T21st in the “Boys A”

Cassandra Hall: 228 (+12) – T10th in the “Girls A”

Kaiyuree Moodley: 233 (+17) – 13th in the “Girls A”

TOYOTA JUNIOR GOLF WORLD CUP – CHUKYO GOLF CLUB, ISHINO COURSE, NAGOYA, JAPAN, 13 – 16 JUNE 2017

The Championship is an annual event and is played at the Chukyo Golf Club, Ishino Course, approximately one hour from the airport, and an hour from the hotel. There is an entry free of US\$500 for both boys’ and girls’ teams.

QUALIFICATION: In the past WGSA has not had to qualify for this event. The boys team has always competed in the qualifying event, the All Africa Junior Golf Challenge and the organisers of the TJGWC requested that in future the girls must also play in a qualifying event. Karen was successful in her request to include girls’ teams at the AAJGC which was held in Zimbabwe in 2017, and as the WGSA girls team won they qualified to play in the TJGWC in 2017. The same team that qualified at the AJGC must play in the TJGWC.

FORMAT: 72 HOLES stroke play with 2 out of 3 scores counting in each round for the girls and 3 out of 4 for the boys.

WGSA PLAYERS: Kajal Mistry, Symone Henriques and Kaleigh Telfer (captain)

SUPPORT TEAM: Manager – Sally Greasley (WGSA President)

Results: 9 Girls Teams:

Girls: 6th out of 9 on a score of +10 (149, 147, 144, 146 = 586)

Winners: USA on a score of -12 (144, 143, 137, 140 = 564)

Results: 15 Boys Teams:

Boys: 8 out of 15 on a score of +8 (216, 212, 216k 216 = 860)

Winners: USA on a score of -21 (207, 212, 209, 203 = 831)

R & A JUNIOR OPEN

Biennial event not held in 2017.

GIRLS BRITISH OPEN AMATEUR – ENVILLE GOLF CLUB, STOURBRIDGE, UK, 15 – 19 AUGUST 2017

Decision was made not to enter in 2017.

DUKE OF YORK YOUNG CHAMPIONS TROPHY, ROYAL LIVERPOOL GOLF CLUB, LIVERPOOL, 12 - 14 SEPTEMBER 2017

The Duke of York Young Champions Trophy is an international mixed tournament played on Open venue links courses. On average around 60 of the world’s most talented male and female junior golfers play in a 54-hole stroke play competition. All the competitors are either the current holders of their Under 18 National Championship or have won another recognised major golfing event in the current year. Girls and Boys are drawn together each day

with the girls 5621 metres and the boys playing a course of 6329 metres. WGSA President Sally Greasley accompanied the players, namely Woo-Ju Son and Jayden Shaper.

RESULTS AND INFORMATION

Results: Woo-Ju Son	15 th	Scores: 77, 77, 81 = 235
Jayden Shaper	Tied 11 th	Scores: 82, 78, 74 = 234

The winner was Ben Jones (England) on 218 (75, 70, 73). Runners up Oscar Teiffel (Sweden) and Rasmus Neergaard-Petersen (Denmark) tied on 226. The top girl was Franziska Sliper (Norway) in 6th position on 231.

2017 THE SPIRIT INTERNATIONAL, WHISPERING PINES GOLF CLUB, TRINITY, TEXAS, USA, 30 OCTOBER – 4 NOVEMBER 2017

The Spirit International Amateur Golf Championship is a biennial event that alternates tournament years with the World Amateur Team Championships and features the world's best men and women amateur golfers, who represent their respective countries in team and individual competitions.

Due to Hurricane Harvey that hit Texas in October 2017, The Spirit organisers decided to postpone the event so that their charitable organisation could assist with disaster relief.

The event will be held again in 2019 at Whispering Pines Golf Club.

101ST ALL INDIA LADIES AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP, EAGLETON GOLF RESORT, BENGALURU, INDIA 18-24 DECEMBER 2017

WGSA received an invitation from the Indian Golf Union for two players and a manager to attend this event. WGSA received the same invitation for the first time in 2016.

This is an Open event and therefore not age restricted, and included a team event with the scores of two players to count.

PLAYERS:

Danielle du Toit and Zethu Myeki were selected. Both these players attended the event in 2016 but unfortunately Danielle was taken ill on the second day of the stroke play, and Zethu was eliminated in the second round of the match play. WGSA President Sally Greasley accompanied the players.

STROKE PLAY RESULTS:

1 st Nayanika Sanga (India): 143 (72, 71)
2 nd Diksha Dagar (India No 1 player) 144 (75, 69)
5 th Danielle du Toit: 147 (75, 72)
T 29 th Zethu Myeki 158 (81,77)

Zethu joined 6 other players in a play-off for 4 places but unfortunately did not qualify which was a huge disappointment for her.

MATCH PLAY RESULTS:

The final round of the match play was played over 36 holes and Danielle du Toit beat Ashley Jau Jen Wen, Malaysia's No 1 player, on the penultimate hole, 2/1.

ANNIKA INVITATIONAL USA, WORLD GOLF VILLAGE, St AUGUSTINE FLORIDA, 12 – 15 JANUARY 2018

Kajal Mistry and Woo-Ju Son received invitations from the organisers to attend the Annika Invitational in Florida.

WGSA gave both players financial assistance.

Kajal finished 6th out of a field of 72 top juniors from 15 countries, an excellent achievement. Woo-Ju finished T29th

ALL AFRICA JUNIOR GOLF CHALLENGE, ROYAL GOLF DAR ES SALAM, RABAT, MOROCCO, 4 – 10 MARCH 2018

For the second year, South Africa sent a girls' and boys' team to the AAJGC to qualify for the Toyota Junior Golf World Cup. The event was held in Rabat, Morocco.

Players: Caitlyn Macnab (Ekurhuleni), Kajal Mistry (Gauteng) and Symone Henriques (Gauteng).

Support Team: Sally Greasley (WGSA President).

24 players from 8 countries, four more than last year, entered the girls event and it is encouraging to see more girls' teams from Africa participating in international competitions.

South Africa's girls' and boys' team won their respective events and have therefore qualified to travel to Japan in June.

Individual Performances:

1st: Kajal Mistry: 81, 75, 78, 73 = 307

2nd: Caitlyn Macnab: 83, 75, 82, 78 – 318

3rd: Symone Henriques: 85, 75, 79, 83 – 322

Team Totals:

South Africa: 622

Zimbabwe: 686

Morocco: 690

GOVERNMENT : SASCOC

We have been advised that the 2018 Youth Olympics will be held in Buenos Aires from the 6 – 18th October 2018. All the organising for this event is carried out by SASCOC.

WGSA PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

WGSA has once again prepared a Player Development Squad Programme for 2018 that encompasses our Elite Squad, B Squad, and a TID (talent identification) programme which includes a Future Young Champions Clinic. Approximately R 900,000 has been budgeted to cover this programme.

Eight PDI players were identified by their Unions and were given the opportunity to participate in the 2018 Nomads Rose Bowl with all their costs being covered, including chaperoned accommodation, by Nomads and WGSA. The players were: Kamaya and Senayah Moodlier (KZN) Tebogo Lefifi and Noluthando Mdanda (Gau) Thaakirah Bickoo (EP) Pheletso Mota (FS), Lucia Mhlabane (Mpu) and Sylken-Leigh November (SC).

WGSA ELITE SQUADS

ELITE SQUAD

WGSA reappointed Val Holland as national coach for 2018 and Anna Becker-Franckel as assistant coach. Members of the Elite Squad will be given financial assistance to attend some Provincial Championships. In 2018 the Elite Squad will attend four camps with two of them combined with the "B" Squad. The "B" Squad will have a total of 3 camps and the TID 2 camps.

In a departure from previous years, all the camps will not be held at HPC. The Elite had a camp at Bryanston Country Club at the beginning of the year and will attend a joint camp with the “B” Squad at Fancourt just prior to the SA Stroke Play. There will be a further camp at Devonvale Golf Club prior to the World Amateur Teams, and a final combined camp with the “B” Squad at Bryanston.

The 2018 Elite Squad members are:

- Symone Henriques
- Caitlyn Macnab
- Kajal Mistry
- Zethu Myeki
- Woo-Ju Son
- Kaylah Williams

The Elite Squad members receive financial assistance to play in Provincial Championships and will continue to do so in 2018.

WGSA B SQUAD

WGSA considers our most important mandate is still to help make our top golfers be the very best they can be and reach their goals. The “B” Squad will attend two camps with the Elite Squad and one at HPC in 2018. The “B” Squad players may claim a limited amount of financial assistance.

The initial B Squad members for 2018 are:

- Kiera Floyd
- Kiera Healy
- Kaiyuree Moodley
- Jordan Rothman
- Megan Streicher

It should be noted that players may be moved up or down from these squads depending on both performance and recommendations from the coaches.

TALENT IDENTIFICATION (TID) PROGRAMME & CAMPS

Our Assistant Coach Anna Becker-Franckel attended the 2018 Nomads SA Girls Rose Bowl to scout for players as part of the selection process to attend the Talent Identification camps. Val Holland will also scout at the SA Stroke Play and the players that are identified will be announced shortly after the Sanlam SA Women’s Stroke Play Championship. They will attend two camps at HPC, the first from the 1st – 3rd June and the second 26th – 28th October.

NOMADS FUTURE CHAMPIONS CLINICS

This initiative was started in 2014 when two clinics were held. These clinics, that are open to handicaps 10-32 and girls new to golf, are run by our National Coaches and are normally held directly after a junior championship. The intention is to hold these throughout our Unions in order to attract as many young golfers as possible. Clinics have been held in Boland, Western Province, KZN, Eastern Province and Gauteng North. Dates for the 2018 Clinics will be announced shortly.

GOLFRSA

This was the first full year of amalgamation between the SAGA and WGSA under the banner of GolfRSA. Since the first Meeting of the Founding Board held on 3rd June 2016, three further full Board Meetings attended by Board Members have been held.

The first Board Meeting in 2018 will be held on 25th April with another on the 20th June followed by the AGM. Several Committees have been formed to take GolfRSA forward, including Strategy and Communication, Development and Transformation and a Finance Committee. Both the SAGA and WGSA have representatives on all committees.

NATIONAL SQUAD

WGSA will again be part of the National Squad and will receive limited funding to assist with the cost of the camps.

HANDICAPPING

The HNA system has been operating successfully throughout the year, with players handicaps updated each day and the phone App assisting players to enter their scores timeously.

All course ratings have been completed and GolfRSA has announced that the new course ratings together with the USGA Slope Rating system will be adopted and come into force 1st January 2020.

A committee has been formed to educate and assist clubs and players understand the new slope rating system, and roadshows will be held in the coming months throughout the country.

The R & A announced changes to the Rules of Golf and these will be implemented in 2019. Neil Homann and Rita Herholdt attended a “Teach the Teachers” seminar at St Andrews in February and will hold clinics in the coming months to update Level 3 Rules Officials and administrators.

PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS & THE WPGA

The following players have turned professional:

1. Chiara Contomathios
2. Shawnelle de Lange
3. Lara Weinstein

Communication between WGSA and the WPGA has been excellent over the past year and WGSA wishes to commend the WPGA on all they have done to grow the Sunshine Ladies Tour in 2017/18 with increased prize money and more events. Our amateurs are very privileged to be able to play in these events and gain insight into the world of the Professional player. It was announced in January 2018 that the SA Women’s Open will be jointly co-sanctioned between the Sunshine Ladies Tour, WPGA and the Ladies European Tour (LET). As a result, 60 places had to be reserved for LET players which limited the number of amateurs who would receive an invitation. It was agreed that 3 players in the top 10 of the WGSA Open Rankings as at 28 February 2018 would receive invitations, and all others would have to play in a qualifying event.

WGSA ADMINISTRATION FINANCE & MEDIA

WGSA Secretary Sonia Schoeman, who manned our office at the Momentum Golf Village in Somerset West for 3 years, finished off at the end of April 2017, with Verucia Bell replacing her. Verucia Bell previously worked for the South African Golf Development Board as Administrator for almost 3 years. Past President, Caroline Kettlewell has continued to act as the treasurer of WGSA for which we are immensely grateful.

Our Tournament Administrator, Erica Botha, passed away very suddenly on 14th August 2017. Erica had been a stalwart member of the WGSAs team for three years and her death came as a huge shock. She is greatly missed.

Pricilla Msiza has been employed by GolfRSA as Tournament Administrator on the ATMS for several of the SAGA events and we are extremely pleased to welcome her as part of our team at four of our National events this year. Thelma Dippenaar and Laetitia Higgs will take on the role of assistant Tournament Administrators, sharing that position between events.

In early 2018 GolfRSA became the go-to website for all amateur golf in South Africa. All the content of the SAGA and WGSAs websites was transferred across, and whilst small amendments continue to be made, the website has been well received. Likewise the GolfRSA Facebook page was launched with a renaming of the SAGA page and the incorporation of the WGSAs page. Whilst the WGSAs Facebook page is still open our historical posts and albums are in the process of being merged with the GolfRSA page. Once completed the WGSAs Facebook page will be closed.

Lali Stander continues her passion for amateur golf and we thank her for making sure our website and Facebook page is updated on a regular basis and our Twitter account remains very active.

Changes in Union Presidents:

North West: Anita Lamprecht took over from Elru Botha in November 2017,

Boland: Tarryn Borsutzky took over from Vossie von Schalkwyk in November 2017.

Eastern Province: Michelle Nieuwoudt took over from Melissa Palmer in March 2018

GIRLS LOVE GOLF /DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The annual development levy paid by affiliated lady golf members in their WGSAs Affiliation Levy funds this programme which is meant to encourage and engender enthusiasm in young girls. The funds are used mainly for coaching via coaching points at golf clubs/driving ranges but we continue to allow each Union to adapt the programme to suit their specific needs with an allocation principle in place to ensure good governance. Many unions have joined forces with the SAGDB coaches in their area to provide coaching not only for boys, but for girls as well.

ERNIE ELS AND FANCOURT FOUNDATION

Zethu Myeki, Larissa du Preez and Zanele Mazibuko will continue to be supported by EEFF

GENERAL

Sally Greasley was nominated as President of Womens Golf South Africa at the AGM in 2017 with Sarah Braude nominated as Vice President. The Executive wishes to thank all players and parents for their support over the past year. We would also like to record our appreciation of the support we get from our very generous National sponsors being Sanlam and the Nomads of South Africa. Thank you to the management and members of golf clubs that have allowed us the use of their facilities during this past year. It is always a pleasure to deal with these clubs who go out of their way to assist us wherever possible.

4 April 2018